

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STOCKH 04708 041343Z  
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----047166 041345Z /45  
O 041130Z NOV 77  
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2196

S E C R E T STOCKHOLM 4708

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TABS: CB, VM, SW, PINS  
SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE DEMARCHE TO SWEDES ON  
VIETNAMESE-CAMBODIAN RELATIONS

1. RELIABLE SWEDISH OFFICIAL SOURCE PROVIDED DCM NOV 4 WITH  
TRANSLATION OF CABLE FROM SWEDISH CHARGE IN HANOI  
(BERTELMAN) DATED NOV 3 AND JUST RECEIVED. SOURCE EMPHASIZED  
THAT DISTRIBUTION BE STRICTLY LIMITED AND SOURCE PROTECTED,  
AND WE REQUEST EARNEST COMPLIANCE. TEXT OF SUMMARY (PROVIDED  
ORALLY IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION FROM THE SWEDISH) FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT. "I WAS TODAY (NOV 3) SUMMONED TO MAI VAN BO  
(VICE FOREIGN MINISTER) WHO BRIEFED ME ON RELATIONS BETWEEN  
VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS HAVING SUFFERED  
FROM "SERIOUS DETERIORATION." AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF  
DISINFORMATION, ACCUSATIONS AND SLANDER FROM CAMBODIA, THE  
VIETNAMESE SIDE CONSIDERED IT APPROPRIATE TO TALK WITH  
FRIENDLY COUNTRIES ABOUT THEIR POINT OF VIEW. ATTACKS  
AGAINST VIETNAM FROM CAMBODIA HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE APRIL 17,  
1975" (SOURCE COMMENT: DATE OF FALL OF PHNOM PENH).

3. PARAGRAPH OMITTED CONCERNING BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN  
VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA IN 1976. TEXT CONTINUES, REFERRING  
TO PRESENT DAY: "THE SITUATION IS VERY SERIOUS. MORE  
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THAN 2,000 VIETNAMESE HAVE BEEN KILLED IN CAMBODIAN  
ACTIONS. MOST SERIOUS CAMBODIAN ACTION TOOK PLACE SEPT 24-5  
AGAINST THAY NINH, ONE WEEK BEFORE CAMBODIAN DELEGATION  
ARRIVED IN HANOI. MORE THAN ONE DIVISION CAMBODIAN SOLDIERS  
WERE USED, AND MORE THAN 1,000 VIETNAMESE WERE KILLED OR  
WOUNDED. 'UNHEARD-OF ATROCITIES' WERE COMMITTED AGAINST  
THE VIETNAMESE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN CONNECTION WITH

BORDER VIOLATIONS. THE CAMBODIAN ARMY IS 'FANATICAL AND DRUNKEN.' IT IS NOT QUESTION OF SINGLE SPONTANEOUS VIOLATIONS BUT A SYSTEMATIC PLAN."

4. STATEMENT FOLLOWED REGARDING GOOD WILL ON VIETNAMESE SIDE AND CONTINUED EFFORTS TO HAVE GOOD RELATIONS ON BASIS EQUALITY AND NON-INTERFERENCE, DESCRIBED BY SOURCE AS FAIRLY STANDARD. TEXT CONTINUES: "BUT YOU MUST DEFEND YOURSELF WHEN YOU ARE ATTACKED IN THIS WAY." THE CAMBODIAN POSITION AS TO THE DISPUTED BORDER LINE IS "IRRATIONAL, ILLOGICAL AND UNACCEPTABLE." SIGNED BY CHARGE. END TEXT.  
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
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